

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-10 STR-08 AGR-20

AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10

NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06

SIL-01 OMB-01 TAR-02 OIC-04 L-03 H-03 PA-03 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 /213 W

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R 101302Z SEP 73

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 582

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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TOKYO FOR RENNER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD TRADE COMMITTEE (TC); PRELIMINARY PLANS
FOR OCTOBER 22-23 MEETING

1. SUMMARY. TRADE COMMITTEE WORKING PARTY (TCWP)
HAD PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION ON SEPT 5 OF PLANS FOR NEXT
TC MEETING ON BASIS OF SUGGESTIONS PUT FORWARD BY THE
SECRETARIAT. SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS AS WELL AS MISSION
AND OTHER DEL COMMENTS THEREON SET FORTH BELOW. ACTION
REQUESTED. SEE PARA 5, BELOW. END SUMMARY.

2. SECRETARIAT OPENED DISCUSSION WITH ANNOUNCEMENT THAT
TC CHAIRMAN HERMES COULD NOT ATTEND TC MEETING AS EARLIER
SCHEDULED ON OCT 29-30 AND HAD PROPOSED OCT 22-23 INSTEAD.

TCWP AGREED NEW DATES WOULD BE CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE

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UNLESS SECRETARIAT NOTIFIED TO THE CONTRARY BY SEPT 14.

MISSION WILL ACCEPT OCT 22-23 UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE BEFORE SEPT 14.

3. SECRETARIAT THEN SUGGESTED FOLLOWING POINTS FOR TC AGENDA:

(A) IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS IN FIELD OF TRADE POLICY. SECRETARIAT ENVISAGES INFORMAL, OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION OF MAJOR PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS IN TRADE POLICY FIELD IN LIGHT OF RESULTS OF GATT MINISTERIAL MEETING AND ANNUAL IMF/IBRD MEETING. PURPOSE WOULD BE FOR SENIOR TRADE POLICY OFFICIALS TO TAKE STOCK OF CURRENT SITUATION AND HAVE FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON NEAR AND MEDIUM TERM PROSPECTS WITH VIEW, INTER ALIA, TO ORIENTING FUTURE WORK OF TC AND TCWP ALONG MOST FRUITFUL LINES. SEVERAL DELS INCLUDING UK, JAPAN, NETHERLANDS AND ITALY EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT FOR THIS AS MAJOR ITEM ON AGENDA. JAPANESE DEL SAID TC MIGHT ALLOCATE ENTIRE FIRST DAY TO IT.

(B) MULTILATERAL SAFEGUARD SYSTEM AND SECTORAL ADJUSTMENT. SECRETARIAT ENVISAGES CARRYING FORWARD JULY 5-6 XCSS DISCUSSION THIS SUBJECT ON BASIS OF NEW DOCUMENT TO BE ISSUED IN NEXT FEW WEEKS.

(C) TC CONSIDERATION OF RESULTS OF TCWP CONSULTATION ON US EXPORT CONTROLS SEPT 25-26 AND AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING SEPT 27-28 (USOECD 23682). PURPOSE WOULD BE FOR TC TO CONSIDER WHETHER THERE WERE SCOPE OR POSSIBILITIES FOR IMPROVED MULTILATERAL COOPERATION TO AVERT OR CONTAIN RECENT UPSURGE IN IMPOSITION OF EXPORT CONTROLS, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF SEC GEN VAN LENNEP'S STATEMENT TO COUNCIL ON THIS SUBJECT JULY 17 (USOECD 19692).

(D) EXPORT CREDITS TO PLANNED ECONOMIES. DISCUSSION WOULD TAKE PLACE ON BASIS OF EXPORT CREDIT GROUP'S (ECG) REPORT TO TC INDICATING WIDE DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS AMONG MEMBER COUNTRIES AS TO WHETHER AND HOW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ECG MIGHT PURSUE ITS WORK IN THIS FIELD (SEE TC (7313). MISSION HAS NO INDICATION OF ANY CHANGES IN KEY DELEGATION POSITIONS WITH CONSEQUENCE THAT OUTLOOK IS FOR CONTINUED DEADLOCK ON THIS ISSUE.

(E) TRADE RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. SECRETARIAT DID NOT SUGGEST ANY SPECIFIC FOCUS FOR DISCUSSION OF THIS ITEM BUT THOUGHT TC MIGHT WISH

EXCHANGE VIEWS ON RESULTS OF RECENT UNCTAD RELATED
MEETINGS AND IDENTIFY SPECIFIC PROBLEMS
DESERVING PRIORITY ATTENTION BY TCWP AND SECRETARIAT
AS WELL AS INDICATING SUBJECTS IN THIS FIELD THAT
TC ITSELF MIGHT WISH TO DISCUSS IN GREATER DEPTH AT
SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS. IN THIS CONTEXT, JAPANESE
AND SEVERAL OTHER DELS THOUGHT ITEM MIGHT BE SUB-
SUMED UNDER ITEM A, ABOVE, OR F, BELOW. MISSION
AGREES.

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(F) WORK IN PROGRESS

(1) GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT. TC WILL BE CALLED
UPON TO DECIDE WHETHER IT WISHES TO SCHEDULE A
SPECIAL TC MEETING ON THIS SUBJECT BEFORE THE END
OF THE YEAR, AS IT AGREED TO DO IN PRINCIPLE AT ITS
MEETING JAN 16-17 (USOECD 1479) AND, IF SO, TO
AGREE ON THE DATE FOR THE MEETING, HOW IT SHOULD BE
ORGANIZED, AND WHETHER FURTHER PREPARATIONS ARE

REQUIRED BY TCWP OR SECRETARIAT.

(111) IMPACT OF INTERNAL POLICIES ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE. LITTLE DISCUSSION ENVISAGED ON THIS SUBJECT. LIKELIHOOD IS THAT TCWP CHAIRMAN WILL GIVE BRIEF ORAL PROGRESS REPORT WITH EXPECTATION OF MORE EXTENSIVE REPORT FOR SUBSEQUENT TC MEETING. (NEXT TCWP MEETING ON THIS SUBJECT SCHEDULED FOR OCT 8-9 ON BASIS OF TDF/TD/740.)
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(111) EXPORT CREDITS. THIS SHOULD CONSIST OF ROUTINE PROGRESS REPORT TO TC WITH REQUEST FOR TC ENDORSEMENT OF CONTINUATION OF EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION SYSTEM AND PRIOR CONSULTATION PROCEDURE FOR ANOTHER YEAR.

(G) NOTIFICATIONS OF CHANGES IN TRADE POLICY. THIS IS USUALLY A ROUTINE ITEM. SECRETARIAT WILL ISSUE PAPER ON NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED SINCE LAST TC MEETING AND SOME, PERHAPS RECENT FINNISH MEASURES, MIGHT BE WORTHY OF BRIEF DISCUSSION.

(H) OTHER BUSINESS.

4. TCWP REACTIO TO SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS WAS GENERALLY FAVORABLE WITH SOME DELS EXPRESSING CONCERN THAT THERE MIGHT BE TOO MUCH TO DIGEST IN TWO-DAY MEETING. THIS PROMPTED JAPANESE DEL, WITH SUPPORT OF SEVERAL OTHERS, TO SUGGEST THAT ITEM ON LDC TRADE BE SUBSUMED UNDER ITEM A OR F.

5. TCWP WILL MEET AGAIN IN LATE SEPTEMBER TO DISCUSS PROPOSED AGENDA IN LIGHT OF REFLECTION AND POSSIBLE COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM CAPITALS. MISSION BELIEVES AGENDA CONTAINS INGREDIENTS FOR USEFUL MEETING AND WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS DEPT. MIGHT WISH TO OFFER.
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